



Gwichyaa Gwich'in Tribal Government
(Formerly known as the Native Village of Fort Yukon, IRA)
P.O. Box 126
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Resolution 03-12

Resolution opposing the federal disclaiming of interest of the lands along, and underneath, the Black River, Salmon River, Bull River, and Grayling River, to the State of Alaska.

WHEREAS, The Gwichyaa Gwich'in Tribal Council is the legal governing body for the Gwichyaa Gwich'in of Gwichyaa Zheh, Alaska, also known as Fort Yukon, and

WHEREAS, The Gwichyaa Gwich'in and the United States of America have a positive government-to-government relationship, and

WHEREAS, The Gwichyaa Gwich'in oppose any action by the State of Alaska to circumvent the Federal requirement of having States adopt "rural preference" amendments, by attempting to receive back the rights and privileges of having the amended State Constitution without actually amending it, and

WHEREAS, The State Of Alaska should adopt a rural preference amendment to the State Constitution before receiving back the rights and privileges that would go with being a responsible and fair governing body, and

WHEREAS, The right to control the navigable waterways up to the high water mark is the Federal Government's reserved right until the State adopts a constitutional amendment, and

WHEREAS, The Federal Government should consult with the Tribes that will be affected by this decision, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Gwichyaa Gwich'in Tribal Council requests that the Federal Government, respect and defend the rights of our Tribal Members-as is part of our trust relationship- by not granting the State of Alaska's request that the Federal Government disclaim interest in the navigable waterways on the Black River, Salmon River, Grayling River, and Bull River.

FURTHER, LET IT ALSO BE RESOLVED, That the Federal Government agencies involved in this exercise encourage the State to adopt a constitutional amendment recognizing and honoring our subsistence rights, prior to attempting to receive the lost privileges shed in its dishonorable inaction regarding such.

CERTIFICATION:

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the Gwichyaa Gwich'in Tribal Council is composed of seven regular members, and the honorary membership of the Traditional Chief Jonathon Solomon Sr., of whom 4, constituting a quorum, were present at a meeting duly and regularly called, notice, convened and held this 20th day of May, 2003, and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of 4 council members, and opposed by 0 council members, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

DATED this 20th day of May, 2003

SIGNED:

Adlai R. Alexander
1st Chief of the Gwichyaa Gwich'in, Adlai Alexander

CERTIFIED:

Robert J. J. J. J.
Council Member Attest